

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134381

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EGEN, MARR, JA, US

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - JAPAN, MAY 25, 1978

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TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/J - NICHOLAS PLATT

1. APPOINTMENTS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

AMBASSADOR TOGO HAS ASKED TO MEET WITH YOU AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE AFTER YOUR RETURN TO HEAR YOUR ASSESSMENT OF
BRZEZINSKI'S TRIP AND TO DISCUSS REFUGEES. AN APPOINTMENT
HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY SET FOR 11:00-11:30, TUESDAY, MAY 31.
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SEVERAL KEY JAPANESE VISITORS WILL BE IN WASHINGTON OVER
THE NEXT FEW DAYS. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAKI WILL
SEE UNDERSECRETARY COOPER AT 11:30 ON TUESDAY, MAY 31, TO
REVIEW NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES AS WELL AS BILATERAL ECONOMIC
ISSUES. ON MAY 31 AND JUNE 1, MITI'S NEXT TRADE POLICY
CHIEF HANAOKA WILL BE MEETING WITH ALAN WOLFF, FRANK WEIL,
ERLAND HEGINBOTHAM, AND JULES KATZ TO DISCUSS TRADE POLICY

ISSUES SUCH AS MTN, TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE, AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COLOR TV ANTIDUMPING CASES. THE SUMMIT PREPARATORY GROUP ALSO MEETS AT STATE ON MAY 27-29.

(MIYAZAKI, HANAOKA, AND TOMO MIYAZAKI -- DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, MOF INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY BUREAU WILL REPRESENT JAPAN.) FINALLY, THE SECRETARIES GENRAL OF ALL THE MAJOR JAPANESE LABOR UNIONS WILL BE IN WASHINGTON JUNE 1 AS PART OF THE JAPANESE NON-GOVERNMENTAL DELEGATION TO THE UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. I WILL BE SEEING THEM AT 3:00 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AND HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DROP IN FOR A FEW MINUTES. THEY ALSO WILL SEE DEPUTY STR ALAN WOLFF.

2. S&T COOPERATION (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

EA/J MET WITH OFFICERS FROM DEPT OF ENERGY AND OES TO SET UP A COORDINATING GROUP TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON US-JAPAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RAISED BY PRIME MINISTER DURING HIS MAY VISIT. GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN NEXT WEEK WITH NSC/OSTP BEN HUBERMAN TO FACTOR HIS TOKYO DISCUSSIONS INTO OUR PLANNING. DOE IS PREPARING PAPER ON CURRENT US-JAPAN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, ONGOING OR UNDER DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS AREAS OF INTEREST TO US, GROUP WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ASPECTS OF FUTURE COOPERATION.

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3. UN UNIVERSITY (UNCLASSIFIED)

I SPENT 40 MINUTES WITH SENATOR INOUE MAY 24, OSTENSIBLY TO BRIEF HIM ON THE FUKUDA VISIT, BUT ACTUALLY TO ASCERTAIN HIS ATTITUDES ON THE PROSPECTS FOR THE UNU APPROPRIATION THIS YEAR. HE WAS NOT VERY IMPRESSED WITH FUKUDA'S GESTURES ON INDOCHINA REFUGEES ("BIG DEAL" WAS THE WAY HE DESCRIBED THEM) BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY DID REPRESENT A RESPONSE TO HIS "TEN MILLION DOLLAR MESSAGE" LAST YEAR. INOUE SAID HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO GET THE UNU APPROPRIATION THROUGH. MY READING IS THAT INOUE MAY BE LESS INCLINED THAN LAST YEAR TO DENY THE APPROPRIATION AS WAY OF TWEAKING TOKYO, BUT THAT WE CANNOT TAKE HIS ADVOCACY FOR GRANTED AND SHOULD MOUNT A HIGH LEVEL CAMPAIGN AIMED AT ALL MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE AS WELL AS THE CHAIRMAN. I PASSED THESE THOUGHTS ON TO A MEETING IN IO MAY 25 CHAIRED BY DAS DALLEY AND ATTENDED BY UNU RECTOR HESTER, FRANK VALEO AND OTHERS. PLANS WERE LAID FOR A THOROUGHGOING CAMPAIGN, INVOLVING AT THE LAST STAGES THE SECRETARY AND THE VICE PRESIDENT.

4. PROPOSED OKINAWA RIF (CONFIDENTIAL)

BOTH ISA AND STATE WERE ASTOUNDED TO LEARN LAST WEEK THAT A LONG-PROPOSED ARMY DRAWDOWN ON OKINAWA MAY RESULT IN THE RELEASE OF AS MANY AS 800 LOCAL EMPLOYEES. A RIF OF THIS SIZE WOULD CREATE ENORMOUS POLITICAL PROBLEMS ON OKINAWA AND WORK AGAINST OUR EFFORTS TO ENCOURGE JAPANESE ASSUMPTION OF A GRATER SHARE OF OUR MILITARY COSTS IN JAPAN. THE COUNTRY TEAM IS UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ACTION AND URGING THAT IT BE DELAYED AT LEAST A MONTH AND PREFERABLY UNTIL AFTER AN EXTRAORDINARY DIET SESSION, LIKELY IN SEPTEMBER. WE MET WITH THE ARMY PEOPLE MAY 24 AND DISCOVERED THAT NO ONE IS QUITE SURE HOW MANY PEOPLE
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NEED TO BE RIF'D, BUT THEY PROMISED US THAT NO ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN UNTIL AT LEAST JUNE 30 AND THAT A FIRMER FIGURE WOULD BE AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK.

5. GAO CORRESPONDENCE WITH JAPANESE POLITICIANS (CONF)

THE GAO LAST MONTH PUT OUT A REPORT CRITICAL OF THE F-16 ENGINE (ALSO IN THE F-15, JAPAN'S CHOICE AS ITS NEXT MAIN-STAY FIGHTER). AKIRA KUROYANAGI, A CGP DIETMAN, WROTE TO GAO ASKING FOR "COMMENTS." GAO PASSED US A COPY OF A PROPOSED LETTER WHICH ENCLOSED THE REPORT AND SEVERAL GAO OBSERVATIONS DRAWN FROM ITOM WE OBJECTED TO THE GAO RESPONSE, POINTING OUT THAT THE AIR FORCE HAD THE ENTIRE REPORT UNDER STUDY. WE EXPLAINED THAT THE TETTER COULD TRIGGER A FLOOD OF INQUIRIES FROM JAPANESE OPPOSITION MEMBERS. WHEN GAO INSISTED ON THEIR RIGHT TO REPLY WE URGED THEM TO SEND A POLITE ACKNOWLEDGMENT WHICH REFERRED KUROYANAGI TO THE EMBASSY. GAO AGREED, SENT KUROYANAGI A COPY OF THE REPORT (WHICH IS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ANYWAY), AND INFORMED HIM THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION WHEN AVAILABLE.

6. SUB TO SASEBO (CONFIDENTIAL)

EA/J RECENTLY APPROVED A DOD REQUEST TO HOME PORT A DIESEL SUBMARINE (DARTER SS576) AT SASEBO. THE EMBASSY WILL RECEIVE THE REQUEST THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS SHORTLY.

7. JAPANESE CONSULATE GENERAL, KANSAS CITY (UNCLASSIFIED)

EA/J STARTED THE BALL ROLLING ON A FORMAL GOJ REQUEST TO OPEN A CONSULATE GENERAL IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. THE NEW POST WOULD TAKE OVER MUCH OF THE DISTRICT NOW
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ALLOTTED TO THE CONSUL GENRAL AT CHICAGO.

8. PEOPLE (UNCLASSIFIED)

WE WELCOME FSO-7 CHERYL MCDONALD TO THE DESK. SHE IS ASSISTING HERB COCHRAN ON ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS AND WILL BE HERE THROUGH THE SUMMER. DAVE BROWN HAS GONE OFF TO FRENCH LANGUAGE TRAINING IN PREPARATION FOR AN OECD PARIS ASSIGNMENT (HUBBARD'S) AFTER COVERING HIMSELF WITH DISTINCTION PREPARING THE PAPERS FOR THE FUKUDA VISIT. VANCE

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